

February 6, 2002

**FILED ELECTRONICALLY**

William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 - 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Presentation*  
*ALLTEL Communications, Inc., and Western Wireless*  
*Wireless Number Portability, WT Docket No. 01-184*

Dear Mr. Caton:

This is to advise you that, on February 5, 2002, Glenn Rabin of ALLTEL Communications, Inc., ("ALLTEL"), Mark Rubin of Western Wireless ("Western"), and the undersigned met with Dorothy Attwood, Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau; and Diane Griffin Harmon and Cheryl Callahan of the Common Carrier Bureau. Samantha Mayo of ALLTEL also participated in the meeting by teleconference.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the importance of the above-referenced CMRS number portability proceeding for ALLTEL and Western as mid-sized CMRS carriers. ALLTEL and Western believe that the record in this proceeding justifies permanent forbearance from the number portability requirements. For practical and technical reasons, however, ALLTEL and Western argued that the Commission should extend the portability deadline for a minimum of 18 months beyond the current November 24, 2002 deadline. ALLTEL and Western described to the staff the technical and operational hurdles that they face in order to implement full-blown number portability above and beyond what is necessary to implement thousands-block number pooling. ALLTEL and Western argued that it is particularly important for smaller carriers to be able to focus their limited resources on ensuring that pooling is successfully implemented before turning to number portability.

William F. Caton

February 6, 2002

Page 2

This letter is being filed electronically in the above-referenced docket pursuant to section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's Rules. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

WILKINSON BARKER KNAUER, LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_/s/  
Kenneth D. Patrich

cc: Dorothy T. Attwood  
Diane Griffin Harmon  
Cheryl Callahan